

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No. : 10/501,320 Confirmation No. 6124  
Applicant : Carlson et al.  
Filed : 07/13/2004  
TC/A.U. : 2856  
Examiner : David A. Rogers  
Title : Method and Apparatus to Detect Genuine or Hoax  
Contaminants  
Docket No. : 1813-8124  
Customer No. : 26085

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

**DECLARATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.131**

Sir:

We, Micah A. Carlson, Adam K. Arabian, and Michael P. McLoughlin, declare that:

1. We have read and understand the specification and claims of the above-identified patent application and declare that we are the co-inventors of claims 13-16 thereof.

2. Prior to December 24, 2001, we conceived of and reduced to practice a method for rapid screening of parcels to identify parcels likely to contain contaminants as described and claimed in the above-identified patent application. This is corroborated by the following documentary evidence, copies of which are attached hereto as Exhibits A – E:

a. In Exhibit A, an 11 page Intellectual Property Disclosure Sheet, date stamped as RECEIVED March 5, 2002, item/block 6 (page 5) indicates that the inventive concept was developed on November 12, 2001 with the first operating model completed November 13, 2001 and the concept documented on November 15, 2001. On page 2A the inventors note that they first discussed the concept with their sponsor on November 12, 2001 and testing occurred from November 13<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup>, 2001.

b. Exhibit B is an eight page program status report for the period November 2001 – January 2002. On page 2, first paragraph under the “Background and Concepts of Operations” section, it states that the inventors’ employer was asked to create a mail-processing facility in November 2001.

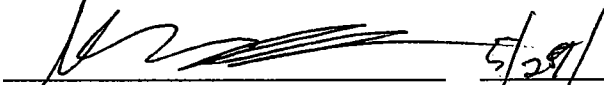
c. Exhibit C is a four page “status update” dated December 27, 2001 indicating the work that had been done on the invention to date.

d. Exhibit D, consisting of nine pages, comprises daily log notes dated November 13, 14, 15, 20, and 21, 2001 indicating the progress on the development of the invention.

e. Exhibit E, consisting of four pages, indicates post-irradiation mail handling procedures as of November 28, 2001.

3. We further declare that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statement were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Respectfully submitted:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Micah A. Carlson                      5/29/2007  
Date

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Adam K. Arabian                      Date                      2007

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael P. McLoughlin                      Date                      2007


Exhibits:

- A. Applied Physics Laboratory Intellectual Property Disclosure Sheet  
Dated Stamped RECEIVED March 5, 2002
- B. Program status report November 2001 – January 2002
- C. Paper, "System Update," dated January 4, 2002
- D. Log for Contaminated Mail Detection System with entries dated  
November 13, 2001, November 14, 2001, November 15, 2001, November  
20, 2001, and November 21, 2001
- E. Draft Post-Irradiation Mail Handling Procedures forwarded by an e-mail  
dated November 28, 2001.

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Respectfully submitted:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Micah A. Carlson  
Date \_\_\_\_\_ 2007

  
Adam K. Arabian  
Date 23 May 2007

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael P. McLoughlin  
Date \_\_\_\_\_ 2007

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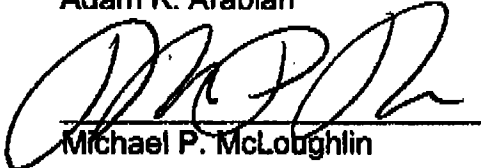
Respectfully submitted:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Micah A. Carlson

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date 2007

\_\_\_\_\_  
Adam K. Arabian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date 2007

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael P. McLoughlin

5/24/2007  
Date

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